

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator Hall.

SENATOR HALL: Mr. Speaker, members, I rise in support of LB 243. As a member of the Public Health and Welfare Committee I sat on the committee last year when we dealt with the bills in the 407 process and watched how it was set up and I agree that Dr. Wright does a good job at what he is supposed to do, but I would argue that his opposition to this bill is in essence, him doing his job. The way the system is set up he is in essence supposed to play devil's advocate. He is not supposed to just stamp his approval on everything that comes across from the 407 committee. But I would argue in this case that he is wrong, that we need this bill. I would argue that many of the people that came in as I sat in committee and listened to testimony who oppose this bill were very much the quack nature as Senator Wesely so suggested. I think that the bill does not harm anyone. At present we don't regulate in very little of any way and I would urge you to support 243 at this time. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: Senator Schmit, did you wish to speak again on this matter? Senator Schmit's light is on to speak. Senator Pappas, do you wish to close?

SENATOR PAPPAS: Yes, Mr. President, colleagues, I want to make a few statements and then defer a little bit of my time to two other people. But basically what this does, the bill in its form now, it recognizes dietitians as a licensed group. It is one step forward in trying to put a little public protection in for the public when it comes to diets because health foods are getting a very big item across the United States now and if you noticed, Senator Wesely sent out the thing from Dr. Wright and I think this is one time Dr. Wright is wrong. But on his recommendations, his last paragraph, he says, "It is my recommendation that legislation regulating dietitians and/or nutritionists not be enacted at the present time. I would recommend instead that strength and enforcement of current statutes relating to unlicensed practice of medicine to prohibitions of false and misleading advertisement and to consumer safety protection in general may be pursued by the appropriate parties." Well right up there he said I would recommend instead that strengthen enforcements of current statutes, so he is telling us to go back in and change some of the statutes we have now and that is basically what we're doing. We're trying to strengthen them. Also what he talks about